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30 March 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Subject: Report of Conversation [REDACTED] on COCOM
Downgrading Project

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1. [REDACTED] and I conferred yesterday on this matter. He expressed a reluctance to forward any recommendations I might make for signature by [REDACTED] and transmittal to the Chairman of the Executive Committee. His reaction is based on the fact that CIA can approve for downgrading only those specific documents over which it has proprietary control. At the panel meeting on this subject, it was acknowledged by both FI and ORR representatives that it is not possible to distinguish in C/O/C documents that intelligence which might have been based on OS information or sources. The broad nature of my criteria employed in this review of documents does not alter this fact.

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2. [REDACTED] feels that because of the complex nature of this project and the involvement of several Offices in this Agency, it would be appropriate for the Chairman of the Executive Committee to address a request for CIA participation in the downgrading to the DCI (for action by General Cabell). I anticipate meeting with [REDACTED] to discuss this entire matter further.

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